

and its citizens against further terrorist attacks. One such step is passage of this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and I look forward to its passage.

#### HONORING THE FRENSHIP JUNIOR HIGH CHEERLEADERS

#### HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Cheerleaders of Frenship Junior High. Through their hard work and dedication, these young women won the National Cheerleading Association National Championship.

Since September, the girls of Frenship Junior High have practiced their routines at least two hours a week. The competition began on December 28th, where the girls qualified for the finals competition the next day. They overcame nerves and last minute alterations in their routine to take the championship on December 29, 2002 with a score of 9.05 on a scale of 10. After so many months of practice and determination, the squad pulled through with a spectacular victory.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, that I honor these dedicated young women for their commitment to their sport. The Frenship Junior High School cheerleaders stand out as very dedicated and motivated individuals. I wish to congratulate these girls on their success in such a competitive sport.

#### HONORING BARRY A. KASTNER

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the works of Barry A. Kastner. This outstanding individual from Long Island was honored last night at the B'Nai B'Rith Banking and Finance Distinguished Achievement Award Dinner.

Mr. Kastner's leadership in the commercial finance industry has been an example to many, and I am most grateful for his service to Congress Financial Corporation and to Long Island.

#### DR. FRANCINE RATNER KAUFMAN

#### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Francine Ratner Kaufman who is receiving the 2003 American Diabetes Association's Women of Valor Award for her dedication to the field of diabetes.

Dr. Kaufman has devoted her clinical and research career to improving the lives of children affected by diabetes. Dr. Kaufman heads the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles and is Professor of Pediatrics at the Keck School of

Medicine at USC. She has published extensively and lectured nationally and internationally on her research in childhood diabetes.

In addition to Dr. Kaufman's busy clinical practice at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles and its satellite centers, Dr. Kaufman has been the medical director at a summer camp for children with diabetes in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California for two decades. She has helped establish standards of care for the American Diabetes Association where she currently serves as 2002-2003 National President. She has led many advocacy efforts at the local and national levels to increase insurance benefits and to reduce discrimination against people with diabetes.

I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Kaufman while I was in the California State Senate. Dr. Kaufman worked with me on legislation that would enhance diabetes treatment and management.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Francine Ratner Kaufman for her pioneering clinical studies, research and devotion to the field of diabetes.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE BYRON KINDER

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career in public service has come to a close. The Honorable Judge Byron Kinder retired from his position as Cole County's circuit court judge on January 1, 2003.

A graduate of the University of Missouri and Georgetown Law School, Judge Kinder has been a highly respected judge in Cole County for thirty years.

Judge Kinder is well known for his sense of humor, his directness, and his ability to quickly get at the heart of the problem. Through his time in office, he has treated all before him with the same sense of justice and respect.

In 1962, he entered private practice in Cole County and served as an assistant prosecutor. In 1965, Judge Kinder was appointed prosecutor by Governor Warren Hearnes, serving until 1972, when he was elected circuit court judge.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Judge Kinder all the best as he moves on to the next step in his life. I know the members of the House will join me in wishing him well.

#### RECOGNIZING PARTNERSHIP OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY ENGLISH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND TAIWAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the success of the Idaho State University English and Professional Development

Program in partnership with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This unique program, the only program of its kind in the United States, provides a language and cultural education program for junior diplomatic officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 40 students have completed the program since its inception in the early 1990's, and many of these graduates now serve their country in diplomatic postings throughout the world.

The program enables these junior officials to increase their knowledge of the American political system, enhance their language skills, and gain a greater understanding of U.S. culture. Instead of just learning about America in textbooks they have the unique opportunity to experience and participate in the American system by way of local internships and interactions with elected officials. Additionally, they can experience Idaho's natural beauty and participate in numerous outdoor activities. Not only does this program benefit these officials, but it also benefits the students of Idaho State University who are exposed to a different culture and perspective, broadening their world view and understanding.

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet the current group of junior diplomats studying at Idaho State University. They are an intelligent, energetic group who are eager to serve their country. We had a healthy exchange of ideas and a good discussion regarding the American political system and current events in Taiwan. They are very interested in gaining as much knowledge and insight as possible during their stay in America and look forward to using what they have learned as they progress in their diplomatic careers.

I congratulate the 2002-2003 participants of this very worthwhile program. Chen Sy-yun, Fu Yu-min, Huang Chien-tsai, Chin Tsung-kai, and Hsiao Kuang-wei are very able representatives of their country and I am sure that like their predecessors they will serve their country with honor and distinction. I wish them success in all their future endeavors.

This exchange of ideas serves both countries well and reinforces the democratic bond between the United States and Taiwan. Positive associations such as this strengthen the tie between our two countries and further reinforce the importance of Taiwan as a trusted ally.

I am honored to have this program in my congressional district and look forward to a continued successful relationship with Taiwan.

I would like to thank the Honorable C. J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States, for his contribution to the close and friendly relationship between our two countries. I would also like to thank Mr. Anthony Chung Yi Ho, Senior Assistant to the Honorable C. J. Chen, for his expertise and leadership in working with my staff, and Michelle Lewis, Director of the Idaho State University English and Professional Development Program, for her dedication and commitment to this unique program.